AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

1.(original) A glutamine-auxotropic human cell transfected with an exogenous DNA sequence encoding a protein or an exogenous DNA sequence capable of altering the expression of an endogenous gene encoding a protein and an exogenous DNA sequence encoding a glutamine synthetase, wherein these exogenous DNA sequences are located on one or more than one DNA construct, said transfected cell capable of producing said protein

and capable of growing in a glutamine-free medium.

2.(original) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 1, wherein the exogenous DNA sequences are located on more than one DNA construct.

3.(currently amended) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of any of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is an immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell.

4.(original) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 3, wherein the immortalized glutamine-auxotrophic human cell is a human fibrosarcoma cell.

5.(original) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 4, wherein the human fibrosarcoma cell is a HT1080 cell line.

6.(currently amended) The glutamine-auxotrophic human cell of claim 1 ~~to 5~~, wherein the transfected cell is anchorage-independent and capable of growing in suspension in serum-free, glutamine-free medium.

7.(original) A process for the production of a protein comprising the steps of

a) culturing a glutamine-auxotrophic human cell according to claim 1 in a culture medium under conditions suitable for expression of said protein and

b) recovering said protein.

8.(original) The process of claim 7 wherein the protein is a glycosylated protein.

9.(original) The use of a glutamine synthetase as a selectable marker in glutamine-auxotrophic human cells.